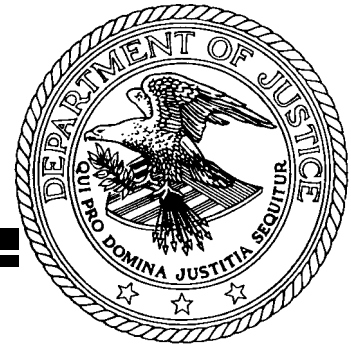


NEWS RELEASE



***OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
San Diego, California***

***United States Attorney
Carol C. Lam***

For Further Information, Contact: Assistant U.S. Attorney Stephen R. Cook (619) 557-6747

For Immediate Release

NEWS RELEASE SUMMARY - April 14, 2004

United States Attorney Carol C. Lam announced today that Guadalupe Flores-Guimenez was arraigned this morning in federal district court in San Diego before Magistrate Judge Jan Adler on a one-count indictment charging him with making a false statement to a federal officer regarding a threat to bomb the San Ysidro Port of Entry.

According to the indictment, Flores told agents of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) that he had overheard a conversation between a Middle Eastern male and a Mexican male in which the two discussed using explosives to carry out an attack on the San Ysidro Port of Entry. The indictment alleges that Flores made these statements knowing them to be false.

At the arraignment, Assistant United States Attorney Stephen R. Cook, the prosecutor assigned to the case, alleged that when Flores was interviewed by agents of the Joint Terrorism Task Force ("JTTF"), he claimed to have overheard two men discussing the use of explosives-packed tour buses to carry out an attack

on the San Ysidro Port of Entry. Flores also stated that he obtained the license plate number from the vehicle driven by one of the men. After spending hundreds of hours investigating Flores' claims, JTTF agents alleged that the vehicle associated with the license plate number provided by Flores belongs to a man with whom Flores had been involved in a traffic accident. Additionally, it is alleged that Flores manufactured the story in order to exact revenge on the other man for his involvement in the traffic accident.

United States Attorney Lam noted that law enforcement authorities value and often rely on tips and information concerning criminal activity provided by the public. The United States Attorney added, however, that "knowingly providing false information about a terrorist attack is a serious crime that ties up personnel and resources that would otherwise be used to pursue legitimate investigations. Those who jeopardize the safety of our community by reporting false terrorist threats will be held accountable."

Michael Turner, Special Agent in Charge for ICE Investigations said, "The Port of Entry at San Ysidro is an important gateway between the United States and Mexico. We are committed to diligently pursuing any and all potential threats that impact the more than 140,000 people that cross there every day."

United States Attorney Lam praised the efforts of the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the agents assigned to the Joint Terrorism Task Force. Flores is next scheduled to be in court on April 16, 2004, for a hearing on the United States' request that he be held without bail.

DEFENDANT

GUADALUPE FLORES-GUIMENEZ, a/k/a Raul Barron

SUMMARY OF CHARGE

False Statement to a Federal Officer in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1001
The charge of making a false statement carries a maximum penalty of 5 years' imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine and 3 years' supervised release.

AGENCIES

Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Department of Homeland Security
Federal Bureau of Investigation

An indictment itself is not evidence that the defendant committed the crimes charged. The defendant is presumed innocent until the Government meets its burden in court of proving guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.